

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on January 14, 2004.

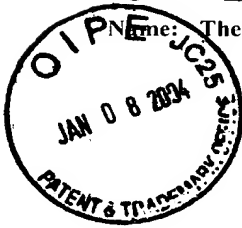
Signature

*Theodore J. Leitner*

Date

*1/5/04*

Name: Theodore J. Leitner



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**JAN 14 2004**  
**TC 1700**

PATENTS  
Docket No. 10004450-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application: 09/919,073

Inventors: Richard O. Hilson, *et al.*

Group Art Unit: 1743

Filed: July 30, 2001

Examiner: Arlen Soderquist

Title: Sample Processing Apparatus and Methods

Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Introductory Comments

This is responsive to the Office Action dated October 8, 2003, from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the above-identified patent application.

This amendment is submitted in accordance with the "Revised Amendment Practice: 37 CFR 1.121 Changed, Compliance is Mandatory – Effective Date: July 30, 2003."

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.

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AGILENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.  
Legal Department, DL429  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P. O. Box 7599  
Loveland, Colorado 80537-0599

1743/8  
PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 10004450-1

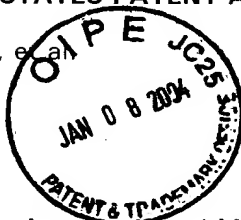
IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inv ntor(s): Richard O. Hilson, et al.

Serial No.: 09/919,073

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE/AMENDMENT

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is/are the following in the above-identified application:

- (X) Response/Amendment ( ) Petition to extend time to respond  
( ) New fee as calculated below ( ) Supplemental Declaration  
( ) No additional fee (Address envelope to "Box Non-Fee Amendments")  
( ) Other: \_\_\_\_\_ (fee \$ \_\_\_\_\_)

CLAIMS AS AMENDED BY OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY						
(1) FOR	(2) CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	(5) PRESENT EXTRA	(6) RATE	(7) ADDITIONAL FEES
TOTAL CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$18	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS		MINUS		= 0	X \$84	\$ 0
[ ] FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					+ \$280	\$ 0
EXTENSION FEE	1ST MONTH \$110.00	2ND MONTH \$410.00	3RD MONTH \$930.00	4TH MONTH \$1450.00		\$ 0
OTHER FEES						\$
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$ 0

Charge \$ 0 to Deposit Account 50-1078. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-1078 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25. Additionally please charge any fees to Deposit Account 50-1078 under 37 CFR 1.16, 1.17, 1.19, 1.20 and 1.21. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: Jan. 5, 2004

Typed Name: Theodore J. Leitereg

Signature: 

Respectfully submitted,

Richard O. Hilson, et al.

By 

Theodore J. Leitereg

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 28,319

Date: Jan. 5, 2004